VACWC – Full Committee Meeting - MINUTES

13 March 2024

Meeting Opened: 1736
Location: Ross Pearson VFW Post 5149 – Rockford, IL
Attendees:

- Dave Davis – VACWC President
- Nancy Clark – Administrative Committee
- Terrell Davis – Personal and Services Committee
- Todd Burton – Finance Committee
- Jesus Pereira - Superintendent
- Ken VanLandeghem – American Legion #288
- George Meissen – American Legion #1207
- Donald Reynolds – Marine Corps League Post #083
- Gary Holmes – American Legion Post #332 – Via Zoom
- Amy Mullen – American Legion Post #332
- Stephanie Gilberts – Navy Club Ship #1
- Gene Schaefer – VFW Post #5149
- Ruben Hernandez – VFW Post #2955
- Eric Willard – Vietnam Veterans of America #984
- Jerome Egilske – Vietnam Veterans of America #984
- Debra Hoover – VACWC Secretary

Todd Burton – Move to delete Financial Services Committee Manual Discussion
Consensus – 9 yes 1 no – overall Yes

- A special meeting will be called at a later date

No Public Comments

Reports
President's Report:

- President welcomed commissioners and guests
- VAC Superintendent, Jesus Pereira "JP" reported that we have 13 member organization validated for the commission
- Noted that 7 is needed for a quorum to have a meeting and to vote in the zoom attendees
- President welcomed new commission members

Nancy Clark moved to accept President's Report – George Blake 2nd
Consensus – 10 yes 0 no – overall yes

Administrative Coordinator Report:

- 3/14 Advisory Workshop will be held next day at 1:00 pm VFW Ross Pearson
- 4/4 Advisory Workshop will be held at 1:00 pm VFW Ross Pearson to prep for 4/10 commission meeting
- Appeals Committee: No Report
- Reminder: everyone is encourage to join all of these workshops and meetings

Nancy Clark Moved to accept Administrative Coordinator Report – Gene Shaefer 2nd
Consensus – 10 yes – 0 no – overall yes

Personnel Committee Report – No Report
Motion: Terrell Lewis 2nd – Don Reynolds
Consensus – 10 yes – 0 no – overall yes
Services Committee Report

- JP review changes and updates to services policy
- The Service Committee approved all of the changes and updates

Finance Coordinator Report: Todd Burton

- Announcement: Todd Burton officially resigned as Finance Coordinator for Veterans Assistance Commission Workshop Committee
- Todd thanks Jesus and CFO Steve Schultz for their effort in moving from QuickBooks to MUNIS
- All money is now going through county which is a very good way to audit
- Todd stated that he firmly believes all board members need to change from time to time
- Nancy asked when was the last time we received an updated financial report (answer: October)
- Todd noted that they have been major changes at the VAC regarding finance and some of these changes have been difficult for the county.
- There will be separate line items in MUNIS to help track budget
- There is confidence that all future financial reports will be accurate
- Nancy noted that our new budget has changed significantly since 2015

Superintendent Operations Report:

- Jesus Pereira, Superintendent thanks the commission and recognized them as his "bosses"
- JP recognized guest, Ray Richmond, VSO – just received PIV which is a great accomplishment
- February Interactions
    - General Assistance - $21,377.23
    - Emergency Assistance - $1,456.00
    - VSO Forms Completed - 37
    - Outreach
        - Vet Talk Round Table 2/20/24
        - Ice Hogs Military Appreciation Night 2/23/24
        - Navigation Neighborhood Resources 2/24/24
- Transportation – 29 rides in February
- Two of our VAC employees assist a veteran in need who was threating his life. Went to his home, talked with him, called his VA Doctor and the Rockford Clinic, took him to dinner – at the end of the visit the veteran was determined to be safe
- Please let VAC Secretary know if you have a change to your phone number or e-mail address

Motion to approve Superintendent Report: George Meissen 2nd Stephanie Gilberto
Consensus 10 – yes 0 – no – overall yes

Correspondence – No Correspondence

Unfinished Business – No Unfinished Business

New Business

- Superintendent JP asked commission to approve a $5,000 relocation expense to bring a new employee to the VAC from out of state.
- Commission agreed but cautioned not to make relocating a habit – we should seek local employment as well
- Work with attorney to develop a statement on when and why relocation would be approved
- JP looking to enhance VSO educations
- Still to hire one VSO with 3-5 year experience and one VSO with no experience

Motion to approve New Business – Nancy Clark 2nd George Meissen
Consensus – 10 - yes 0 – no – overall – yes

Closed Session – 90 Day Review of Superintendent – **Postposed** as this topic was not properly noted on the agenda. A special meeting will be held March 20, 2024 specifically for this 90 day review and Review of Service Manual Updates

Meeting adjourned 1830 hours